

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TUNIS 02366 061520Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 DLOS-09 EB-08 FEAE-00

OMB-01 TRSE-00 /106 W

-----061937Z 085192 /53

R 061448Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6316

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY ALLETTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TUNIS 2366

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PLOS TS IT LY ENRG ELTW

SUBJECT: LIBYAN-TUNISIAN DISPUTE: ALGERIA TO ITALY

GAS PIPELINE

1. CURRENT AGGRAVATED STATE OF TUNISIAN-LIBYAN
CONTINENTAL SHELF BOUNDARY DISPUTE - AND ISSUE OF ITALIAN
DRILLING BARGE IN DISPUTED AREA - ARE SUBJECTS BOTH OF
INCREASED PUBLIC DISCUSSION BY MEMBERS OF GOVERNMENT AND
HEAVY PRESS PLAY.

2. SEMI-INDEPENDENT DAILY "LE TEMPS" OF APRIL 5 GIVES
FRONT PAGE LEAD TO APRIL 3 STATEMENT OF DEFENSE MINISTER
FARHAT THAT GOT IS BRINGING DOMESTIC LEGAL ACTION AGAINST
SAIPEM, OPERATORS OF ITALIAN RIG. SAME ARTICLE, WHICH REFERS
TO "FAILURE" OF FOREIGN MINISTER CHATTY'S MARCH 24-25 MISSION
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TUNIS 02366 061520Z

TO LIBYA, QUOTES MINISTER FOR RELATIONS WITH NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY, BEL HADJ AMOR AS DECLARING TO LOCAL PARTY GROUP
THAT ALGERIA-TO-ITALY PIPELINE PROJECT HAS NOT BEEN
ABANDONED AND PROBLEMS HOLDING UP IMPLEMENTATION ARE
ECONOMIC DETAILS TO BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN GOT AND GOI,
NOT BILATERAL POLITICAL PROBLEMS BETWEEN TUNISIAN AND
EITHER ALGERIA OR ITALY. (MEDIA SOURCE HAS SUGGESTED

TO EMBASSY THAT ALGERIANS IN FACT COULD BE UNDERTAKING
MEDIATORY ROLE IN TUNISIAN-LIBYAN DISPUTEUI

3. ALL THREE FREPCH-LANGUAGE TUNIS NEWSPAPERS APRIL
1 FRONT PAGED STORIES BASED UPON FOREIGN MINISTER CHATTY'S
MARCH 31 AIRPORT STATEMENT UPON HIS RETURN FROM TRIPOLI,
CAIRO, RIYADH AND BAGHDAD - VIA ROME, AND HIS REPORT LATER
IN DAY TO PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA. LE TEMPS AND PARTY DAILY
L'ACTIONLHEADLINED "FAILURE OF CHATTY'S MISSION TO LIBYA"
MEANING NO POSITIVE RESULTS FROM HIS TALKS WITH QADHAFI.

4. AS CHATTY WAS QUOTED, IN PART: "I VISITED SEVERAL ARAB
COUNTRIES AND DELIVERED TO THEIR CHIEFS OF STATE PERSONAL
MESSAGES FROM PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA. THE FIRST STOP WAS
LIBYA WHERE I MET OUTSIDE TOBRUK WITH COL. QADHAFI TO WHOM
I DELIVERED THE MESSAGE OF THE SUPREME COMBATANT. I THEN
HAD AN ITERVIEW OF TWO AND A HALF HOURS WITH HIM ON
BILATERAL RELATIONS AND MORE PARTICULARLY ON THE DISPUTE
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES RELATIVE TO THE CONTINENTIAL SHELF.
THE INTERVIEW TOOK PLACE IN A SPIRIT OF FRANKNESS AND CLARITY.
EVEN THOUGH THE INTERVIEW YIELDED NO POSITIVE RESULTS, I HOPE
THAT SUCH CONTACTS WILL CONTINUE SO THAT WE MAY RESOLVE OUR
PROBLEMS BY DIALOGUE AND ONTHE BASIS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW
AND THE FRATERNAL, AGE OLD RELATIONS WHICH LINK TUNISIA
AND LIBYA."
MULCAHY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONTINENTAL SHELF, OFFSHORE DRILLING, BOUNDARY CLAIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TUNIS02366
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770120-0521
Format: TEL
From: TUNIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770480/aaaacrva.tel
Line Count: 88
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f7e2c9a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2876928
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIBYAN-TUNISIAN DISPUTE: ALGERIA TO ITALY GAS PIPELINE
TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, ENRG, ELTN, TS, IT, LY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f7e2c9a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009